

**ASSIGNEE STATEMENT (UNDER 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b))**

Becton, Dickinson and Company states that it is the assignee of the entire right, title and interest in the patent application identified above by virtue of an Assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application identified above. The assignment for the present application U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/727,194 filed and recorded on April 14, 1998, at Reel 011181, Frame 0686.

The undersigned, whose title is supplied below, is empowered to sign this statement on behalf of the assignee.

Becton, Dickinson and Company

/davidwhighet/

David W. Highet  
Assistant Secretary  
VP and Chief IP Counsel

Dated: October 9, 2007

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